



**DISTRICT SEVEN
COMMUNITIES**

Allied Gardens
Alvarado Estates
Chollas Creek
Colina del Sol
College Area
Del Cerro
El Cerrito
Fox Canyon
Grantville
Islenair
MCAS Miramar
Oak Park
Rancho Encantada
Redwood Village
Rolando Park
Rolando
San Carlos
SDSU
Tierrasanta

The Emerald News

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This Summer, Think Water

“Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink.” We’ve all heard that old adage. But it’s more meaningful in San Diego and the Western United States because of increased demand, continued drought and climate change in general.

All major water studies now show our water supplies are shrinking. The Scripps Institution of Oceanography has been carefully watching the Colorado River in particular, our major source of water. Our reservoirs are going dry, too. Lake Mead could become what scientists call “a dead pool” as early as 2021. That’s less than a decade from now. This all translates to lower supplies and higher costs for San Diego.

For that reason, my City Council colleagues and I have created a new Water Policy Implementation Task Force. This working group is comprised of private citizen volunteers who are studying what we need to create a larger and more reliable course of healthy water, while protecting our environment and our pocketbooks.

At their July 5th meeting, Task Force members ranked their priorities for water policy going forward. They includes creating a rate structure that encourages conservation and discourages waste; the use of grey water, water recycling, changes in land use policies and increased water storage capacity.

The Task Force meetings are open to the public, and they want your input. The next meeting will be on July 25, from 11 am to 2 pm, at the Metro Operations Center II Auditorium, 9192 Topaz Way in San Diego.

If you cannot make the meetings, please share your ideas with my office. Water, water everywhere or nowhere? What is the solution? I look forward to hearing from you at martiemer-ald@sandiego.gov

Thanks, Marti

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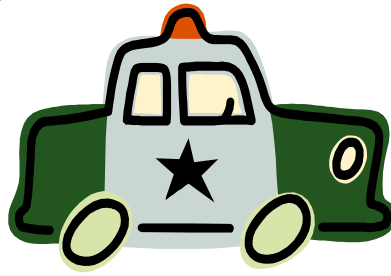
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Safety Speaks

Councilmember Emerald Calls for SDG&E Dollars to Fund Fire-Rescue Deficiencies

San Diego Gas and Electric has agreed to pay the City of San Diego \$27 million to settle a lawsuit over the 2007 wildfires. Councilmember Marti Emerald is asking the Mayor to reinvest this unexpected revenue back into public safety, calling for at least \$18 million to design and build critically needed fire stations citywide, as recommended last year in the Five Year Fire Safety Plan on San Diego's emergency preparedness.

"For safety's sake, we must be diligent in directing all available funding toward our five year fire safety plan so we can respond to daily emergencies within nationally acceptable time limits, and be better prepared for future disasters," said Councilmember Emerald in a memo to Mayor Jerry Sanders.

Communities which most critically need fire stations include Paradise Hills, College, Skyline, Encanto, Stresemann/Governor and Mission Valley, and the area around Home Avenue. The Plan also recommended more training academies to staff fire stations, equipment and communication systems within the five year timeframe.

The Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee next meets on Wednesday July 18, 2012 at 2PM in City Hall. For public safety related concerns, please contact Committee Consultant Drew Ector by calling (619) 236-7038 or emailing DEctor@sandiego.gov.

To access the Five Year Fire Safety Plan, please visit: http://docs.sandiego.gov/councilcomm_agendas_attach/2011/PSNS_110629_4b.pdf

Storefront Improvement Program

At the last Economic Development and Strategies Committee meeting, Committee members heard a presentation from the City of San Diego's Office of Small Business. The Storefront Improvement Program (SIP) assists small business owners with design assistance and a rebate of the construction costs.

As a part of a comprehensive approach to small business assistance and neighborhood revitalization, the City of San Diego gives small business owners incentive to improve their storefronts. Improvements may include awnings, signage, exterior artwork and lighting.

If interested, contact Alissa Gabriel at agabriel@sandiego.gov to learn how to use this program to your business and community's best advantage.

Celebrating Community



Top Left: Ribbon cutting at Dennis V. Allen Park to celebrate a new Tot Lot.

Right: Marti at the Lake Murray Playground ground-breaking with kids that hope to enjoy the newly accessible and rebuilt park.



Bottom Left: Councilmember Emerald was a guest lecturer for a special Leadership Academy, hosted by Proyecto de Casas Saludables. The focus was on how local government works and how residents can reach and work with their elected representatives to effect positive change in their neighborhoods.

Storefront Improvement Increases Neighborhood Value

Before



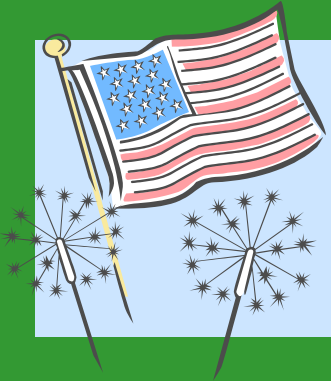
After



For more information, please visit: www.sandiego.gov/storefront
or call (619)236-6460 for more about the program.

July Community Events

Hope everyone
had a wonderful
4th of July!



MARTI EMERALD'S GOALS

*Improve Public Safety

*Create Jobs

*Restore Trust in

City Government

Saturday, July 7th - 8th Annual Somali American Cultural Fest

Somali Youth United is hosting a free event to honor the 52nd anniversary of Somali independence. This event will feature music, dance, a fashion show, activities, food and free health screenings from 3 to 8 pm. Join them at the Market Creek Plaza, 310 Euclid Avenue. For more info, please visit: <http://www.somaliyouthunited.org>

Thursday, July 12th - Making University Avenue Walkable

Join other business owners and community members to identify and prioritize improvements in your neighborhood from 5 to 7 pm. Meet at the City Heights Wellness Center, 4440 Wightman St, Suite 200.

Saturday, July 14th - Art in the Park at Mission Trails Regional Park

From 6 to 8:30 pm, come enjoy art, wine, cheese, chocolate and a view of the night sky. The San Diego Astronomy Association will be offering telescopic views. \$35 per person, \$50 per couple.

Saturday, July 21st - City Heights Walkability Assessment Workshop, hosted by Fox Canyon Neighborhood Association

Join other business owners and community members to identify and prioritize improvements in your neighborhood from 10 am to 12 pm. Meet at the Auburn Park Community Room, 5123 University Avenue.

Saturday & Sunday, July 21st & 22nd - Relay for Life, Southeastern San Diego

is an event held by the American Cancer Society to help people stay well and get well, to find cures, and to fight back against cancer. Join them at Walter J. Porter Elementary, 444 S 47th Street. For more information, visit www.RelayForLife.org/SoutheasternSanDiegoCA

Sunday, July 22nd - Allied Gardens Pops Concert in the Park will be on the Recreation Center's front lawn. Come listen to live music at 7 pm.

Tuesday, July 24th - Making El Cajon Boulevard Walkable

Join other business owners and community members to identify and prioritize improvements in your neighborhood from 6:30 to 8 pm. Meet at the Bedder Buy Discount Outlet, 5058 El Cajon Blvd.

Friday, July 27th - Free Movie Night at Teralta Neighborhood Park

"We Bought a Zoo" shows at 8 pm. Bring a blanket, your family and snacks! Free popcorn will be provided. Hosted by the City Heights Community Development Corporation's Metro Villas Learning Center and City Heights Recreation Council.

Tuesday, July 31st - SDG&E Inaugural Military Summit

Attention active military and veterans, come learn about jobs in the energy and utility industries, and to best prepare for these opportunities. The summit will be from 4 to 7:30 pm at the Marine Corp Recruit Depot (MCRD) - The Bay View Restaurant. Pre-registration required online at seminars.sdge.com, event# 6726.